

THE FUTURE TENSE

GRAMMAR BOOK p. 26

A. THE SIMPLE FUTURE TENSE (“WILL”)

➤ The simple future refers to a time later than now, and expresses facts or certainty.

The simple future is used:

- To **predict** a future event that **we don't know for sure**, but we think that it will happen:
e.g. It **will rain** tomorrow.
- With I or We, to express a **spontaneous decision**:
e.g. I'll pay for the tickets by credit card.
- To express **willingness**:
e.g. He'll carry your bag for you. **I'll do** the washing-up.
- In the negative form, to express **unwillingness**:
e.g. The baby **won't eat** his soup.
e.g. I **won't leave** until I've seen the manager!

FORMS OF THE SIMPLE FUTURE TENSE

➤ **In affirmative**, the structure of the Future Simple Tense is:

S + auxiliary WILL + Vb1

SUBJECT	AUXILIARY	VERB	COMPLEMENT
I	shall/will	study	at Yale University next year .
You	will	go	to the cinema next Tuesday .
He/She/It	will	play	outside during the summer.
We	shall/will	order	some food.
You	will	leave	tomorrow .
They	will	go	to Italy next spring .

NAME: _____ DATE: _____ Gr. ____

- For negative sentences in the Simple Future tense, we insert **not** between the auxiliary verb and main verb.

SUBJECT	AUXILIARY	NOT	VERB	COMPLEMENT
I	shall/will	not	study	at Yale University next year .
You	will	not	go	to the cinema next Tuesday .
He/She/It	will	not	play	outside during the summer.
We	shall/will	not	order	some food.
You	will	not	leave	tomorrow .
They	will	not	go	to Italy next spring .

- In the interrogative form, we exchange the subject and auxiliary verb.

AUXILIARY	SUBJECT	VERB	COMPLEMENT
Shall/Will	I	study	at Yale University next year?
Will	you	go	to the cinema next Tuesday?
Will	he/she/it	play	outside during the summer?
Shall/Will	we	order	some food?
Will	you	leave	tomorrow?
Will	they	go	to Italy next spring?

- **Contracted forms:**

I will	I'll		I will not	I won't
You will	you'll		You will not	You won't
He will She will It will	he'll she'll it'll		He will not She will not It will not	He won't She won't It won't
We will	we'll		We will not	We won't
They will	they'll		They will not	They won't

B. 'BE GOING TO' FUTURE

It is used for:

- **planned** actions in the future

e.g. We **are going to** Tim's party.

- To express an action that you are **certain** that is going to happen in the future

e.g. Look at that car! It **is going to** crash into the yellow one.

Look at the clouds! It **is going to** rain soon.

FORMS OF THE 'BE GOING TO' FUTURE

to be (am, are, is) + *going to* + infinitive

1. Affirmative sentences in the 'be going to' future

Long forms	Contracted forms
I am <i>going to</i> play handball.	I'm <i>going to</i> play handball.
You are <i>going to</i> play handball.	You're <i>going to</i> play handball.

2. Negative sentences in the 'be going to' future

Long forms	Contracted forms
I am not <i>going to</i> play handball.	I'm not <i>going to</i> play handball.
You are not <i>going to</i> play handball.	You're not <i>going to</i> play handball.
	You aren't <i>going to</i> play handball.

NAME: _____ DATE: _____ Gr. ____

3. Questions in the 'be going to' future

Long forms	Contracted forms
Am I <i>going to</i> play handball?	not possible
Are you <i>going to</i> play handball?	

ATTENTION!!

Do not mix up with the Present Progressive!

'be going to' future	Present Progressive
He's <i>going to</i> read the book.	He's reading the book.

Practice

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A. Fill in the gaps with the correct form of Simple Future Tense.

EXAMPLE:

_____ they _____ the match? (*to win*)

ANSWER:

Will they win the match?

1. They _____ back by 6:30 pm. (*to be*)
2. _____ you _____ me? (*to help*)
3. When _____ I _____ you again? (*to see*)
4. His parents _____ him for being late. (*not/to punish*)
5. _____ they _____ the contract tonight? (*to sign*)
6. It _____ us three hours to get there. (*to take*)
7. _____ this concert _____ money for our school club? (*to raise*)
8. This van _____ with 8 people in it. (*not/to break down*)

NAME: _____ DATE: _____ Gr. ____

9. The meeting _____ before tomorrow morning. (**not/to close**)
10. When _____ she _____ me a copy of her essay? (**to send**)

B. Please fill in the gaps with the right form of "going-to-future"

Example: I _____ (buy) some milk this afternoon.

Answer: I **am going to buy** some milk this afternoon.

- 1) This is taking ages. How much longer _____ (**it / take**)?
2) We _____ (**visit**) my parents at the weekend.
3) The naughty children _____ (**not / ring**) up any more, because I asked them not to.
4) Look at those clouds! It certainly looks as if it _____ (**rain**).
5) _____ (**you / spend**) your holidays in England?
6) No, I _____ (**travel**) to Australia this year.
7) I don't want to go to the party. Peter _____ (**invite**) my old boyfriend!
8) Whatever shall I do? Peter _____ (**play**) football, although he is still injured.
9) I _____ (**take**) this bus into town today.
10) Do you know whether anybody _____ (**pick up**) Sarah this afternoon?

References:

<https://www.englishclub.com/grammar/verb-tenses-future.htm>

<http://www.ef.com/english-resources/english-grammar/simple-future-tense/>

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<http://www.kico4u.de/english/uebungen/aktiv/goingtofuture.htm>